

02-13-04

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Application Response Number 10/015,087

SUPPLEMENTAL OFFICE ACTION RESPONSE

Art Unit 3677

February 11, 2004

page 1 of 5

SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION RELATIVE TO AMENDMENT

DATE: February 11, 2004

via express mail # **E2 375066689 U4**

TO: U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner of Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attn: James R. Brittain, Examiner Art Unit: 3677

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FEB 20 2004

GROUP 3600

RE: Application Control Number 10/015,087

Submitted in response to Office Communication dated 01/21/2004

Applicant: Leonard Duffy

Title: Improved Slidingly Engageable Fasteners and Method

Dear Mr. Brittain:

As per your request dated Jan. 21, 2004, the following is intended to explain "how new claims 48-55 are patentable over the applied references especially with respect to new method claim 48". Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Regarding New Claim 48:

"48. (new) A method of fastening two portions comprising:

Providing a first portion that includes:

a first base, and

a first plurality of first islands each having at least one undercut surface spaced from said first base;

Providing a second portion that includes:

a fenestrated base with a plurality of fenestrations, and

a second plurality of islands, each said island having at least one undercut surface spaced from said base opposite at least part of ones of said fenestrations so as to define a plurality of generally tapered apertures between adjacent pairs of said second islands;